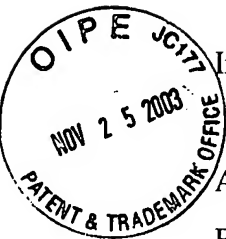


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re application of:

STROUP *et al.*

Appl. No. 10/050,907

Filed: January 18, 2002

For: **Apparatus and Methods for
Separating Liquids From Solids**

Confirmation No.: 5808

Art Unit: 1723

Examiner: Menon

Atty. Docket: 02514.0007.NPUS01

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.136

Mail Stop RCE

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

It is hereby requested that the period for responding to the Final Office Action mailed **July 28, 2003**, in the above-referenced application be extended **one (1)** month from October 28, 2003 to **November 28, 2003**, by the filing of this Petition and fee payment.

The petition fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a) is enclosed in the amount of **\$110.00**. Fee payment is provided in our accompanying Check #405421. However, if extensions of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 other than those provided herewith are required to prevent abandonment of the present patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 08-3038 referencing the above-docket number. *A duplicate copy of this Petition is enclosed.*

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J. Bell (Reg. No. 39,604)

Michael J. Stimson (Reg. No. 45,429)

11/26/2003 JADD01 00000104 10050907

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Date: November 25, 2003

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